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THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

THE excitement produced in England by the rejection of the Alabama treaty, and the republication in this country of the elaborate comments of the British press, have greatly increased the American interest in the topic and awakened a feeling of curiosity in regard to the probable course of the National Administration. Various theories and conjectures have been set afloat. One suggestion is that the leaders of the Republican party will aggravate a war feeling against Great Britain for the purpose of gaining and consolidating partisan strength; but we trust this allegation is unfounded, and we are glad to learn from our correspondent at Washington that the Secretary of State ridicules this idea, and that he thinks "it would be folly to drag purely diplomatic questions into a political canvass." The American people do not intend to submit to any new humiliation from Great Britain, and they have neither forgotten nor forgiven the conduct of her ruling classes in the hour of our peril, but they instinctively recognize the importance of peace after the close of the recent terrific contest, and they were never less disposed to provoke a needless war than at the present moment. They have not yet forgotten what a bloody and protracted conflict means, the horrors it entails, the miseries it causes, the social and financial disruptions it creates; and while these recollections are still fresh, the Republicans, after having been a war party in time of war, will have little disposition to play the silly part of a war party in time of peace. While there is a reasonable prospect left of reconciling peace with the maintenance of the national honor and safety, it is wiser and better to negotiate than to follow the brutal old rule of giving a blow first and resorting to diplomacy afterwards. One of the most important elements of suc-

cessful diplomacy is secrecy, and the administration has acted wisely in concealing from the public the character of the instructions given to Mr. Motley. It is universally conceded, however, that the Alabama question is still considered a legitimate subject for peace ful discussion, and that he has been directed to reopen negotiations; and it has recently been stated that his first step will be to ask that the discussions may in future be transferred from London to Washington. This is a wise and reasonable request. American Ministers accredited to the British capital have sought in vain, during a series of years, for a peaceful solution of this intricate subject, and it would be but courteous for a British Secretary of Foreign Affairs to permit an American Secretary of State to confer with a British Ambassador. This transfer of the scene of negotiations would also tend to increase the chances of the ratification of any treaty that might be framed, by the American Senate. The London journals complain that the rejection of the last treaty indicates that American Ministers are not reliable exponents of American feeling; but the present Secretary of State, acting under the supervision of the President, and in accord with the dominant majority in the Senate, would not be subject to this imputation, and there is little danger that he would consent to any stipulations that would not be subsequently ratified in this country. If Great Britain wishes to feel well assured that the proposed new treaty will not be nullified on this side of the Atlantic, she can easily gain this assurance by consenting to the adjustment of the preliminaries at the capital of the Republic

instead of the Court of St. James. Whether this proposition is acceded to or not, it is alleged that our Government will in future discussions lay stress upon the principles involved in the dispute rather than upon the pecuniary claim for damages. It is idle to expect that England will ever repay us, in dollars or pounds sterling, any sum approaching the real measure of the financial injuries she inflicted. If the damage to American commerce, not merely in vessels captured, but in ships driven from the ocean or forced to seek shelter under foreign flags, is added to the enormous increase of our war debt, which was necessitated by various forms of British aid to the Rebellion, the total would run up to thousands of millions of dollars, and Great Britain has neither the disposition nor the ability to liquidate a claim of such fearful dimensions. The proposed demand, it is said, will be only for the payment of claims for direct and unquestionable losses, but this to be accompanied by an unequivocal apology for the hasty extension of belligerent rights to the Confederacy, and the acknowledgment that the British Government acted on false principles when it displayed such readiness to recognize rebellion. Ansgotiation conducted on this basis would probably gain for us all that can be gained by peaceful measures; and if Great Britain refuses to confess her error. she will permit a precedent fraught with peril to her interests, in future, to remain uncancelled.

A MEETING of the Old School Presbytery at Boston, held yesterday, unanimously adopted the basis of reunion which was recommended by the Old and New School General Assmblies that recently met in New York. This prompt ratification no doubt foreshadows similar proceedings in other portions of the Union, and the period is evidently near at hand when the complete union of the two main branches of Presbyterianism will be perfected.

NO REINFORCEMENTS NEEDED. A CEBLE despatch from Madrid gives the rather remarkable information that Espinar, the acting Captain-General of Cuba, has countermanded the previous orders for reinforcements. This is considered by the Spanish authorities as an indication of an improved condition of affairs on the island, and it consequently has given great satisfaction in the Spanish capital. Our information about the actual state of affairs in Cuba is sufficiently meagre, but it is very probable that the Spanish government knows even less than we do. On the arrival of Gen. Dulce they will probably gain a few important ideas from verbal communication with that officer which will put a different complexion on the Cuban situation, and somewhat diminish their confidence in the ability of Espinar and his disorganized band of volunteers to

crush out the rebellion without assistance. The whole conduct of the Spanish volunteers, and the deposition of Dulce and other officers in particular, shows that they are demoralized, undisciplined, and utterly unfit to enter upon a regular campaign against a resolute foe. It is from just such men as this that we might expect a specimen of braggadocio like that implied in Espinar's revocation of the order for reinforcements. Their principal performances hitherto have been in murdering and maltreating unresisting men, women, and children who may have incurred their displeasure, and they have probably but very little stomach for legitimate fighting, with its incidentals of forced marches, throwing up intrenchments, hard work, and half rations, especially as the unhealthy season is at hand, and manœuvring in the field will be attended with other and greater perils than the bullets of the enemy. At the commencement of our own war we had plenty of volunteers who imagined that they had only to show themselves in all the bravery of bran new Zouave uniforms, to strike terror to the hearts of the enemy and finish the war out of hand. The New York Fire Department undertook to wind up the war in thirty days, but it was speedily discovered that actual fighting on the field of Bull Run was something very different from what it was imagined to be when the matter was being discussed in the beer saloons of New York. The Spanish volunteers undoubtedly are impressed with an exceedingly lofty idea of their own invincibility, and they consequently scorn the idea of having any assistance in the work of conquest or in sharing the plunder after the cruel war is over. The Cubans can scarcely ask for anything better than for the Spanish Government to let them try the experiment, and the probabilities are that before the summer is ended the question of Cuban independence will be definitely settled so that there will be no occasion for reinforcements.

LAY REPRESENTATION IN THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The peculiar surroundings and composition of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on its first establishment in this country, rendered it almost absolutely necessary that the entire governing power should be lodged in the hands of the ministry. This was, in a preeminent degree, an aggressive and proselyting body, characterized by unbounded zeal and energy, and moved to the noblest self-sacrifice in the furtherance of the cause which its members had espoused. But with the lapse of time the Church extended itself into every section of the country, drawing together within its folds much of the intelligence and wealth of the land. At the present day, it is one of the very largest and most influential ecclesiastical organizations in the United States, and yet it is the only Protestant denomination of any size and pretensions in which the clergy have the absolute control of everything pertaining to its general disciplinary and financial matters. Since 1824 there have been several serious attempts at effecting a radical change in this respect. The first of these culminated, in 1828, in a schism, from which the Methodist Protestant Church sprung into existence, in consequence of the intolerance which swayed the counsels of the majority. This result was so disastrous that it was not until 1860 that the advocates of lay representation could muster sufficient forces to enable them to command the attention and respect of their opponents. The failure of the movement at that time is ascribed to a variety of causes, into which we need not enter in detail. But defeat served merely to harmonize and strengthen the reformers, and now the whole Church is called upon to decide whether it shall continue under the absolute sway of the priesthood. Elsewhere we give, in to-day's issue, an elaborate sketch of the movement and the outline of the proposed reform. Thirty-one churches have already pronounced their verdict upon the issue, and the vote thus far received stands 2368 in favor of the change to but 266 against it. This result encourages the liberal-minded and progressive members of the denomination to hope for a complete triumph; yet the result, we understand, is by no means certain, as in many of the interior districts, the people, under the leadership of ministers who are jealous of their power and not in entire accord with the spirit of the age, are thought to be averse to any radical modification of the constitution of the Church. It is to be earnestly hoped, however, that the desired reform will be effected, and all who desire to see it brought about should not neglect to avail themselves of the privilege of easting an affirmative vote.

OBITUARY.

Rev. Father Felix J. Barbelin, S. J. Last evening, about 8 o'clock, this well-known and respected clergyman, for many years paster of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Willing's alley, west of Third street, died after a brief illness. He was in the sixty-second year of his age. His spirit ascended with the echoes of the music in his church, for just as the evening service ended he expired. When Father Jordan announced his death to the people,struck by surprise and grief,-many of them were affected to tears. The bells of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's then tolled in solemn dirges to his memory, The deceased came to this city in the year 1839, having previously been ordained at Georgetown College, and took the position of assistant at St. Joseph's, becoming its paster in 1844. He was beloved by his congregation-esteemed by the world. His decease leaves a void which no other can fill. The funeral ceremonies will take place at the Cathedral, on Eighteenth street.

-Ten churches in the United States contributed over \$1000 each to missions last year, according to

SPECIAL NOTICES.

BOY A FLORAL AND STRAWBERRY FEStival will be held on THURSDAY and FRIDAY
Afternoen and Evening, June 10 and 11, at the CENTRAL
CONGREGATIONAL Chapel, corner of EIGHTERNTH
and GREEN Streets. Admission, 16 cents. 68 54 NOTHING BUT ACTUAL TRIAL CAN give any just idea of the delicious, arry, clastic soft-of a bed made of the Elastic Sponge. Its unri-d cleanlines and durability command it. Its univer-deption seems a certainty.

WEDDING AND ENGAGEMENT Rings, of solid 18-karat fine gold. QUALITY WAR-BANTED. A full assortment of sizes always on hand.

PARK & BROTHER, Makers,

Ro. 324 CHESNUT Street, below Fourth.

BEST" CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE. City Warrants registering to 18,000 will be paid on presentation. Interest ceasing from this date.

JOSEPH N. PEIRSOL,
65 stuth 3t.

City Treasurer.

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE ILLNESS

DR. WYMAN, DENTIST. No. 257

North SIXTH Street, opposite Franklin Square, extracts teeth absolutely without pain with pure Nitrous Oxide Gas, inserts the best teeth, and makes no charge for extracting with a without pain. extracting, with or without gas, when artificial teeth are userted at Dr. WYMAN'S, No. 257 North SIXTH Street, apposite Franklin Square.

BOY THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS of the YOUGHIOGHENY COAL HOLLOW COAL COMPANY will be held at their Office, No. 423 WALNUT Street, Philadelphia, on MONDAY, June 14, 1899, at 12 o'clock M.

F. B. HUBBELL,

SALAN 18 44rm.

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE. - THIS BATCHELOKS HAIR DIE.—THIS splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world; the suly true and perfect Dye, harmless, reliable, instantaneous; no disappointment; no ridiculous tints; remedies the ill effects of bad dyes; invigorates and leaves the Hair soft and beautiful, black or brown. Sold by all Drugrists and Perfumers; and properly applied at Batchelor's Wig Factory, No. 16 BOND Street, New York.

437mw6

BEST DIVIDEND NOTICE. -AT A GENERAL meeting of the DELAWARE AND CHESA.
PEAKE CANAL COMPANY, held June 7, 1829, a cash dividend of THREE PER CENT, was declared on the capital stock of the Company, clear of all taxes, payable to the Stockholders on and after the 9th inst.
686t HENRY V. LESLEY, Secretary.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THE ANNUAL PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS of the Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman classes at the close of the College year, will be held daily (except Sundays) from 10 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M., from June 4 to June 22.

EXAMINATIONS FOR ADMISSION to the College will be held on June 23, beginning at 10% o'clock.

THE COMMENCEMENT will be held June 34.

FRANCIS A. JACKSON,
Secretary. UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

BEF FLORAL FESTIVAL AND PROME-BED THORAL FESTIVAL AND PROMEmade Concert at HORTICULTURAL HALL, on
TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY Afternoons and Evenings,
the 8th and star of June, by the LADIES' AID SOCIETY
of the new Baptist Church, corner of BROAD and SPRUCE
Streets. Open from 2 to 10/5 o'clock, P. M.
Promenade concert at 8 o'clock. Germania Orchestra.
Season tickets, 50 cents. Single tickets, 25 cents; for
sale at C. W. A. Trumpler's, No. 225 Chesnut street; J. T.
Shinn's, S. W. corner Broad and Spruce streets, and at the
hall.

IMPORTANT TO BUYERS OF HOSIERY — Messra. COOK & BROTHER, Importers of Hosiery, No. 53 North EIGHTH Street, claim to be the only firm in Philadelphia, keeping all grades of Hosiery at retail, who import their own goods. They feel assured.

assured—
First. That by avoiding the profits and commissions imposed in the ordinary course of trade they save their customers at least 25 per cent.

Second. That they have the quality of their goods under complete control, using the best yarms and employing the best workmen in their manufacture.

Third. That having direct access to European markets, they can keep a more complete stock than if dependent upon purchases made here of foreign goods.

A call from the reader is solicited at their store, No. 53 North EIGHTH Street.

5 5 weip3m OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND

TREASURY DEPARTMENT PHILADELPHIA, June 8, 1869.
Coupons due on the 15th instant, on the Gold Loan of this Company, will be paid in coin at their Office on and Holders of ten or more Coupons are requested to pre-

NAVIGATION COMPANY.

at them before the 15th, and SOLOMON SHEPHERD, Treasurer. BETHANY MISSION SABBATH SCHOOL, TWENTY-SECOND and SHIPPEN

Streets. STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.

THURDSDAY AND FRIDAY AFRERNOONS AND EVENINGS, JUNE 10 and 11.

It is determined to make this Festival a great success, and will be well worth a visit.

A fine Band of Music will be in attendance. Tickets for sale at the following places:

J. H. COYLE & CO., No. 310 MARKET Street. GEO. H. BROWN, No. 40S. FOURTH Street. CHAS. E. MORRIS, No. 715 WALINUT Street. JOHN WANAMAKER. Nos. 818 and 82. OHESNUT. J. E. GOULD, CHESNUT, below Tenth. SHINN'S Drug Store, BROAD and SPRUCE. 67 3t PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW YORK

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SEVEN PER CENT. BONDS.

A limited amount of these Bonds, guaranteed by the LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY, is offered at NINETY PER CENT.

The Canal of the Company is 105 miles long. Their Railroad, of the same length, is fast approaching completion, and being principally owned by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, will open in connection therewith an immense and profitable trade Northward from the Coal Regions to Western and Southern New York and the great Lakes.

Apply at LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD COM-PANY'S OFFICE, No. 303 WALNUT Street, Phila-

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PORT, SHERRY, ANGELICA HOCK, ORANGE BLOSSOM WINE TONIC

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NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNER-PARTNER BHIP.—The undersigned, the general and special partners of the firm of WHITE & SPARHAWK, a part-nership formed on the 4th day of June last, under the act of Assembly of March 21, 1836, entitled "An act relative to limited partnerships," have agreed to dissolve said partnership at a period previous to the time specified in the certificate of its formation, to wit, on the 1st day of July next, 1869.

ertificate of its formation, to y next 1889. JOHN P. WHITE, JOHN SPARHAWK, GEORGE W. HARRIS, JULIA H. BILLINGS, General Partners. Executrix,
Special Partners.
S. J. DENNIS,
Executors of the Estate of
J. M. Billings, deceased.

Philada, May 31, 1869. OLOTHING.

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ECONOMY!

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To secure even-handed JUSTICE, just come and see what splendid bargains are offered in the gorgeous stock of Spring and Summer Clothes just prepared and exhibited to the public by

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The fullest LIBERTY is to be enjoyed when the man who enjoys it is neatly dressed in a suit of New Spring Clothes, which fit him so comfortably as not to abridge the freedom of his motions. Such clothes are to be had at

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CLOTHING HOUSE. No advantage taken of a want of knowledge of goods. FINE GOODS AT THE LOWEST RATES. STRICTLY ONE PRICE.

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\$1'25 NEW MUSIC ALBUMS. \$1'25

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This celebrated Cement is used upon all the public buildings at Washington, D. C., and has been analyzed by Dr. Henry Erni, late Consulting Chemist at the Department of Agriculture, who pronounces it equal to the best Roman Cement. It has been known and used at the South since 1830, and every lock on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, from Cumberland to Alexandria bears testimony to its merita.

Builders and Contractors generally are invited to subject it to the severest tests. 6 9 wastrp CARPETINGS.

1000 Pieces Brussels,

2000 Pieces Fancy Matting, JUST RECEIVED PER STEAMER.

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SQUARE, AND UPRIGHT PIANOS
are universally acknowledged to be the best instruments
made, and have been awarded the highest premium at all
the principal Exhibitions ever held in the country. Our
extensive facilities for manufacturing enable us to offer
great inducements. Call at our beautiful warerooms, No.
1103 Chesnut street, and examine our extensive stock of
Superior Rosewood Pianos.

P. S.—We have secured the agency for the sale of the
Celebrated Burdett Gryun. It has no rival. The superiority
of these instruments over all others is so great that we
challenge contradiction. Call and examine them before
purchasing elsewhere.

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The Grand Piano selected by Mrs. Lincoln for the White House eight years ago is now at our warerooms on exhibition, where it will be shown to any one having a desire to see this historic relic.

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PIANOS.—It will be welcome news to the musical public that Steinways have succeeded, by the most
gigantic improvements, in raising the Upright Piano from
its well-known state of imperfection to that of the most
perfect amongst the different shapes of pianos. The
Upright Piano of Steinway & Sons now is more durable,
keeps better in tune and in order, has more power, a
purer and more musical tone, and a botter touch than the
square piano, and rivals in most of these points even the
Grand Piano. Its advantages are so plain and striking
that the most prejudiced against this shape of a piano are
converted by examining them; and out of twenty who
want to buy a Square Piano, nineteen prefor now already
an Upright one of S. & S. Purchasers will do well to
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325 WAREROOMS, No. 610 AROH Street. CHICKERIN Grand Square and Upright PIANOS.

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A NINE-ROOM HOUSE, No. 1116 CARPENTER Street,

with bath and gas, hot and cold water

Apply on the Premises. FOR SALE—HANDSOME THREEstory Brick Dwelling, three-story double back buildings, No. 624 SINTH Street, above Green; modern improvements, and in excellent order. Was owned and built
by the late Henry Derringer, deceased, of the very best
materials and workmanship. Immediate possession,
Agent at house from 12 to 2 o'clock daily.

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FOR SALE—A HANDSOME THREE-story Brick Dwelling, on VINE Street, between Nineteenth and Twentieth. Lot 18 by 117 feet to a street. Double back buildings, gas, bath, water-closet, hot and cold water. Finished in good style, and in excellent repair. Good sized yard. Apply to G. R. GARDINER, No. 112 South FOURTH Street. Good sized yard. Apply South FOURTH Street.

FOR SALE - GERMANTOWN. - COMfortable house and three acres; shade, small fruits nt grounds, pointed stone stable and carriage house pleasant grounds, pointed stolle at the premises, DUY'S Bath, range, theater. Apply on the premises, DUY'S Lane, above Church Lane, or to M. C. LEA, No. 469 WALLAND Street, between 10 and 12 o'clock.

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GERMANTOWN PROPERTY TO LET.—
A large, modern-built house, tenant-house, coach-house, and live acres of land, handsomely laid out walks and garden; within two minutes' walk of Duy's Lane Station. Apply to J. ARMSTRONG.

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DICKSON BROTHERS,
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TO RENT-AN OFFICE SUITABLE FOR A physician or a lawyer, with or without board, at No. 1121 GIRARD Street. 3 15 STORE TO RENT-NO. 1210 CHESNUT St. Apply in second-story of the building. 69 wfm3t

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ELEGANT STORE No. 1002 ARCH Street. Are now selling FIRST-CLASS FURNITURE at very

Reduced Prices. CHOICE FAMILY FLOUR. For the Trade or at Retail.

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East of Front street. STEAMBOAT LINES. FOR CAPE MAY.—STEAMER
LADY OF THE LAKE.—This fine new
Steamer will be put on the route on or about
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UNITED STATES TAXES. This road runs through a thickly populated and rich agricultural and manufacturing district. For the present, we are offering a limited amount of the above Bonds at

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The connection of this road with the Pennsylvania and Reading Railroads insures it a large and remunerative trade. We recommend the bonds as the cheapest firstclass investment in the market.

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curities, GOLD, BILLS, Etc. Receive MONEY ON DEPOSIT, allowing interest. NEGOTIATE LOANS, giving special attention to MER CANTILE PAPER.
Will execute orders for Stocks, Bonds, etc., ON COM

MISSION, at the Stock Exchanges of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Baltimore. 4 265 CHAMPION SAFESI

GREAT FIRE AT CAMDEN.

CAMDEN, June 7, 1869. MESSES, FARREL, HERRING & Co., No. 629 Chesnut Street, Philadelphia. Dear Sirs:—At the very destructive fire of Messrs, McKeen & Bingham's Saw Mill, which occurred on the evening of the 6th instant in this place, the Safe manufactured by you, belonging to the late firm of F. M. Bingham & Garrison, was in the building and white the control of the safe as the fire regard.

subjected to a very severe test, as the fire raged flercely for several hours; and so great was the heat

fiercely for several hours; and so great was the head that the brass piates were melted off, and to our great surprise, when the Safe was opened, we found all the books and papers uninjured.

Yours, respectfully,

SAMUEL B. GARRISON,

Late of F. M. Bingham & Garrison.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION SAFES, "THE MOST RELIABLE SECURITY FROM FIRE NOW

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